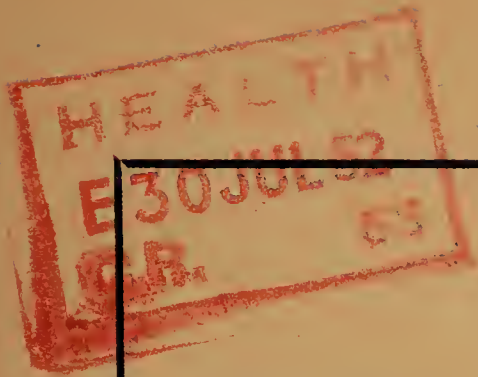


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STAFFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL
REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1951

JUNE, 1952

ANNUAL REPORT

Public Health Department,
7, St. Mary's Grove,
Stafford,

June, 1952.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE STAFFORD RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting to you the Annual Report for the year 1951. The report has been compiled on the general lines suggested in the Ministry of Health Circular 42/51.

In 1951 the Stafford Rural District had a Live Birth Rate of 15.2 and a Death Rate of 9.3 per 1,000 population compared with respective figures of 15.5 and 12.5 for England and Wales. The excess of Live Births over Total Deaths was 116.

Compared with 1950 there was an increase in the incidence of Whooping Cough, the parishes affected being shewn in tabular form in the body of the report. No cases of Diphtheria were notified in 1951, and no deaths were recorded as due to Measles or Whooping Cough. Taken generally the statistics of the Stafford Rural District for 1951 compared favourably with those for England and Wales.

There is some evidence throughout the country that the success of the Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign in almost eliminating Diphtheria has led to some apathy among mothers who have lost their fear of Diphtheria as a deadly disease. It is stressed that if Diphtheria is to be kept at its present low incidence an adequate level of immunisation in the population must be maintained.

It is a matter for keen regret that during the year a start was not made with the work of providing adequate sewerage in the parishes in the eastern area—Colwich, Brocton, Baswich, etc. In the very near future it is to be hoped that all obstacles will be overcome and that the Council will proceed with vigour to remedy this grave public health defect. The overflowing septic tanks and sewage-polluted ditches in these and other parishes can be satisfactorily remedied in one way only—the provision of adequate sewerage. The Council is acutely aware of the fact that the extension of water supplies and the provision of sewerage must go hand in hand, and is anxious to press on with such sewerage schemes throughout the area.

Housing is referred to in the body of the report, and the Housing application list is still a long one, there being 595 applicants on the list at the end of 1951.

I wish to thank the Staff of the Public Health Department for much help in the preparation of this report and for their satisfactory work during the year in question. Thanks are also due to the members of the Council for their help and encouragement, and to Dr. A. V. Campbell who has acted for me during holiday periods.

A. THOMSON.

Public Health Committee, 1951

Chairman—

COUNCILLOR A. J. BOURNE.

Vice-Chairman—

COUNCILLOR H. C. PLANT

Members—

Councillor J. R. Ball, J.P.

Councillor H. J. Moulton

„ T. W. Brayne

„ W. Martin, M.B.E.

„ R. H. Cartmail

„ S. W. K. Marshall

„ Rev. W. F. O’N. Fisher
M.A.

„ D. H. T. Smith,
C.C.

„ L. Hickman

„ J. Wainwright

„ A. H. Johnson

„ T. Weetman

„ A. J. James

„ C. S. Whiteley

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health—

A. THOMSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Edin.)

Chief Sanitary Inspector—

G. M. LAWTON, A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A., Certified Food Inspector

Additional Sanitary Inspectors—

F. WEEDON, M.S.I.A.

L. P. POOLE, M.S.I.A. (left August, 1951)

Clerk—

MRS. L. E. HOLLOWAY

Junior Clerk and Trainee—

J. LEAR

General Statistics, Social Conditions and Health Services in the Area

Area (in acres)	80,249
Number of inhabited houses	4,361
Rateable Value	£84,197
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£328
Yearly Rate Levied in 1951	16/-
Population (as estimated by the Registrar-General) :	
Total Population	19,700
Estimated number of Agricultural Workers	1,250
Estimated number of workers in other occupations	5,250

There were no alterations in the boundaries of the Rural Area in 1951.

A map of the area is included in this report.

Industries

Many residents in the Area are normally mainly engaged in Agriculture, Dairy Farming and Allied occupations, but a substantial number of persons resident in the Rural Area are employed in the County Town of Stafford, where the chief industries are Engineering and Boot and Shoe Manufacturing. Estimated numbers are shewn above.

Laboratory Facilities, Ambulance Facilities, Nursing in the Home, Treatment Centres and Voluntary Hospitals

Bacteriological facilities are made available to Medical Practitioners in the Area by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford. This Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health. The facilities include examinations of Throat Swabs, Sputum Tests, Blood Tests, etc. Results of all examinations relevant to Public Health are made available to the appropriate Medical Officer of Health. The Director of the Stafford Laboratory is Lt.-Col. Phease, whose helpful advice is available to the Medical Officer of Health when occasion demands. Bacteriological examinations of samples of water are undertaken by the Laboratory Service.

Chemical Examinations of samples of water are carried out at the County Chemical Laboratory which is directed by Mr. Houlbrooke, the County Analyst. The results of such analyses are shewn in the body of the report.

The Stafford Rural District Council, until 5th July, 1948, had agreements with the Stafford Borough and Rugeley Urban District Councils for use of their Ambulances for general hospital work, and the services provided proved adequate and sufficient for the needs of the Rural Area. On 5th July, 1948, the duty of providing Ambulance Services was placed upon the County Council

as Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Until July 5th the Mid-Staffs. Joint Hospital Board, of which the Stafford R.D. was a constituent member, provided ambulance facilities for the conveyance of cases of Infectious Diseases to Isolation Hospitals under the Board's jurisdiction. The Regional Hospital Board (Birmingham) thereafter took over responsibility for these hospitals.

The County Council is the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority for the Stafford R.D. Area. Child Welfare Centres are available at Gnosall, Great Haywood, Hixon and Walton, and the Health Visitors do excellent work in promoting the Welfare of young children in the district. Your Medical Officer of Health attends the Welfare Centres and Schools in the Area and is thus enabled to assess the health standards of the young life in the district.

There are two General Medical Practitioners resident in the Stafford R.D. and Practitioners from the neighbouring towns of Stafford, Rugeley, Newport, etc., also practise in the Area. The various parishes in the Stafford R.D. are well served by District Nurse-Midwives.

The Staffordshire General Infirmary, from 5th July, 1948, under the direction of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, serves the general hospital needs of the district. From that date the Board also assumed responsibility for the provision of Maternity Hospital facilities which previously were provided by the Staffordshire County Council. There are also several small private Maternity Homes providing for the district.

During the year the Council subscribed to the Central Council for Health Education which represented the Ministry of Health in Health Education matters and use was made of Health Education leaflets, etc., relating to Infectious Diseases, Food Hygiene and so on.

Vital Statistics for the Year 1951

In the Stafford Rural District in 1951 the Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population was 15.2 compared with a rate of 15.5 for England and Wales.

					Stafford R.D.
					Live Birth Rate per
					1,000 Population
Year					
1951	..	..	..	..	15.2
1950	..	..	..	..	15.2
1949	..	..	..	..	20.8
1948	..	..	..	..	18.0
1947	..	..	..	..	18.7
1946	..	..	..	..	18.7
1945	..	..	..	..	18.2
1944	..	..	..	..	19.6
1943	..	..	..	..	21.1
1942	..	..	..	..	19.3

The Still-Birth Rate per 1,000 Population was 0.15 in 1951, compared with 0.16, 0.20, 0.79, 0.86, 0.27 in 1950, 1949, 1948, 1947 and 1946, respectively.

During 1951 the Rate of Illegitimate to Legitimate Births was 1 to 29, compared with figures of 1 to 19, 1 to 23, 1 to 16, 1 to 13 in 1950, 1949, 1948 and 1947, respectively.

There were 300 (281) Live Births in the Rural Area in 1951, 154 (139) boys and 146 (142) girls. The figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1950.

In the following table Comparative figures for Live and Still-Births are shewn for England and Wales :—

Year	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population		Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	
	Stafford R.D.	England and Wales	Stafford R.D.	England and Wales
1951	15.2	15.5	0.15	0.36
1950	15.2	15.8	0.16	0.37
1949	20.8	16.7	0.20	0.39
1948	18.0	17.9	0.79	0.42
1947	18.7	20.5	0.86	0.50
1946	18.7	19.1	0.27	0.53
1945	18.2	16.1	0.41	0.46
1944	19.6	17.6	0.40	0.50
1943	21.1	16.5	0.55	0.51

There were 3 Still-Births in the Rural Area (2 m., 1 f.) in 1951, all being legitimate.

Deaths

In 1951 the Death Rate per 1,000 of the population was 9.3 compared with a Rate of 12.5 for England and Wales.

Year	Death Rate per 1,000 Population			
	Stafford R.D.		England & Wales	
1951	9.3	12.5
1950	9.5	11.6
1949	10.1	11.7
1948	9.1	10.8
1947	10.2	12.0
1946	9.3	11.5
1945	10.9	11.4
1944	9.8	11.6
1943	12.9	12.1

In the Stafford Rural District in 1951, total deaths numbered 184, 102 males and 82 females. The excess of live births over total deaths was 116, compared with 106, 164, 135, 129 and 140 in 1950, 1949, 1948, 1947 and 1946, respectively.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age numbered 15, 15 legitimate and nil illegitimate, giving a Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births of 50, compared with 29.6 for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality Rate

Death Rate of Children under 1 year
of age per 1,000 Live Births

Year	Stafford R.D.		England & Wales	
1951	50	29.6
1950	39	29.8
1949	25	32
1948	29	34
1947	32	41
1946	61	43
1945	22	46
1944	44	46

Deaths, 1951 : Causes

Cause of Death	Ma'es	Females	Totals
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	—	—	—
Other forms o Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	1	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococca Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasms : all sites ..	15	14	29
Diabetes	—	2	2
Vascular lesions of Nervous System ..	8	12	20
Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System	33	29	62
Influenza	3	7	10
Pneumonia	7	—	7
Bronchitis	4	1	5
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	1	—	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	3	1	4
Nephritis	2	1	3
Diseases of Genito-Urinary System ..	2	—	2
Maternal Causes	—	—	—
Congenital Malformation :	2	1	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	2
All other Accidents	2	2	4
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide	—	—	—
All Other Causes.. ..	16	9	25
TOTALS	102	82	184

Names of Parishes in Stafford Rural District shewing number of houses (including farm houses), approximate population figures and Incidence of Infectious Diseases in each parish in 1951

Name of Parish	Number of Houses	Approximate Population	Infectious Diseases Notified									
			Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles (excluding Rubella)	Whooping Cough	Primary Pneumonia	Dysentery	Enteric or Typhoid	Para-typhoid	Erysipelas	Poliomyelitis
Adbaston ..	163	610	—	—	18	12	1	—	—	—	1	—
Berkswich ..	319	1,256	2	—	1	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bradley ..	82	319	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brocton ..	194	784	4	—	12	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Castle Church	173	727	2	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church Eaton	180	1,019*	—	—	8	13	—	—	—	—	—	1
Colwich ..	460	1,763	1	—	21	6	—	1	—	—	—	—
Creswell ..	89	322	—	—	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ellenhall ..	51	172	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Forton ..	194	713	3	—	6	16	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fradswell ..	35	155	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gayton ..	51	190	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gnosall ..	619	2,229	2	—	10	73	1	—	—	—	1	—
Haughton ..	163	537	1	—	8	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
High Offley	189	678	2	—	1	15	—	2	—	—	—	—
Hopton and Coton	251	3,803*	8	—	13	12	2	2	—	—	—	—
Ingestre ..	44	133	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marston ..	47	208	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norbury ..	86	291	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ranton ..	66	276	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salt and Enson	95	386	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Seighford ..	302	1,102	1	—	17	5	1	—	—	—	—	—
Stowe ..	301	1,186*	—	—	3	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tixall ..	45	206	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Weston ..	112	418	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitgreave ..	50	217	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	4,361	19,700	27	—	126	201	7	5	—	—	2	1

*Include Polish Hostel occupants, H.M. Forces, etc.

Infectious Diseases

The Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1951 compared with that of previous years is shewn below in tabular form. :—

Disease	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942
Scarlet Fever	27	32	34	55	35	26	27	46	59	18
Whooping Cough	201	5	36	53	16	37	35	25	78	22
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	6	4	5
Erysipelas	2	5	5	3	1	2	4	2	2	9
Measles (exclud'g Rubella)	126	314	43	115	125	1	164	75	110	10
Primary Pneumonia	7	10	6	2	3	3	2	5	6	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	5	1	4
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
Dysentery	5	5	—	—	1	10	1	7	2	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	9	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—

Age—Incidence of Infectious Diseases, 1951

AGE-GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Measles (excluding Rubella)		Whooping Cough		Primary Pneumonia		Dysentery		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fever		Erysipelas		Polio-myelitis	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4 years ..	1	4	—	—	28	19	43	66	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 years ..	14	2	—	—	36	30	40	34	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
11—15 years ..	—	—	—	—	5	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20 years ..	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—30 years ..	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31—50 years ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
51—70 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 70 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	21	6	—	—	72	54	92	109	4	3	2	3	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—

Infectious Diseases Notifications, 1951, showing Months of Occurrence

MONTH	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Measles (exclud- ing Rubella)	Whoop- ing Cough	Pneum'ia (Acute) Primary	Dysen- tery	Food Poison- ing	Enteric or Typhoid Fever	Para- Typhoid Fever	Ery- sipelas	Poliomyelitis Para- litic	Poliomyelitis Non- Paralitic
January ..	3	—	1	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
February ..	—	—	20	13	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
March ..	2	—	2	11	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
April ..	7	—	6	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
May ..	4	—	31	9	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
June ..	2	—	14	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July ..	—	—	34	13	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
August ..	—	—	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September ..	2	—	10	88	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October ..	3	—	3	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November ..	4	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December ..	—	—	2	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	27	—	126	201	7	5	—	—	—	2	1	—

Statistics, 1951

	Stafford Rural District	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	148 smaller Towns with Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 census	London Administrative County
Births :—		Rates	per 1,000 Population		
Live Births	15.2	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.8
Still Births	0.15	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.37
Deaths :—					
All causes	9.3	12.5	13.4	12.5	13.1
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.05	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.38
Influenza	0.51	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.23
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (includ'g Polioencephalitis)	—	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.36	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.61
NOTIFICATIONS					
Typhoid Fever	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	—	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Meningococcal Infections	—	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet Fever	1.37	1.11	1.20	1.20	1.10
Whooping Cough	10.20	3.87	3.62	4.00	3.11
Diphtheria	—	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01
Erysipelas	0.10	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.15
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	6.39	14.07	13.93	14.82	14.64
Pneumonia	0.36	0.99	1.04	0.96	0.72
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Non-Paralytic	—	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02
Food Poisoning	—	0.13	0.15	0.08	0.23
Deaths :—		Rates	per 1,000 Live Births		
All causes under 1 yr. of age	50.0	29.6	33.9	27.6	26.4
NOTIFICATIONS :		Rates per 1,000	Total (Live and Still) Births		
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia	—	10.66	13.77	8.08	14.90

Diphtheria Immunisation

During 1951 facilities were available for the Diphtheria Immunisation of children at schools, welfare centres and by private practitioners. The following table shews the number etc., of children so treated.

Course of Primary Injections	Reinforcing Injections
Under 5 years	5—14 years
133	74
	256

In England and Wales the mortality and incidence of diphtheria continues to fall. In 1951 deaths numbered 34 against a yearly average of about 2,800 between 1930 and 1940. Notifications in 1951 were 1,983 compared with a yearly average of 55,000 in the same decade. The remarkable success of the campaign waged against Diphtheria is shewn in tabular form below:—

Year	Deaths	Notifications (corrected)
1944	934	23,199
1945	722	18,596
1946	472	11,986
1947	244	5,609
1948	156	3,575
1949	84	1,890
1950	49	962
1951	34	699

Since 1944 records have been kept of corrected diagnosis following notification. The 1951 figures in the table above are provisional.

The Ministry of Health stresses the need for the campaign against Diphtheria to be continued with unabated vigour.

With the fall in the number of cases of and deaths from Diphtheria a feeling of complacency may be engendered in the public mind. The maintenance of an adequate level of immunisation is absolutely essential.

It is vital to secure that not less than 75% of children are immunised before their first birthday. It is estimated that during the whole of 1951, 497,020 children under 5 years old were immunised, this being about 5,000 below the "objective" of 502,000 for the year, the "objective" being 75% of the number of children estimated to have attained the age of 1 year in the year in question.

It is stated that over 140,000 fewer children in the 0—5 age-group were immunised in 1950, compared with 1949. Intensive efforts must therefore be made to achieve the level of immunisation necessary to secure the full benefit of the campaign; if parents do not have children protected by immunisation there may be a return of Diphtheria outbreaks. The fullest publicity is advocated

by the Ministry as essential if parents are to be helped to realize that Diphtheria is still a deadly threat and to be persuaded to have their children immunised.

VACCINATIONS

During 1951 the figures for vaccinations in the Rural Area were as follows :—

	Under 1	2—4	5—14	Over 15	Totals
Vaccinations ..	70	24	4	9	107
Re-Vaccinations	—	—	2	28	30

TUBERCULOSIS

During 1951 the Tuberculosis Register was thoroughly revised and brought up-to-date as far as possible. The following extract from the Register was taken at the end of December, 1951.

1951	Cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis			Cases of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis			Total of Respiratory and Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
End of December, 1951	35	15	50	6	7	13	63

No deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis occurred in the Rural Area in 1951 ; there was one death due to Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis. This gave a death-rate of 0.05 per 1,000 population compared with a figure of 0.31 for England and Wales.

National Assistance Act, 1948

During 1951 no action under Section 47 of the above Act was taken by the Council.

Infectious Diseases Notifications—England and Wales

England & Wales	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Scarlet Fever.. ..	60,524	75,460	71,753	66,852	49,431
Whooping Cough ..	94,241	145,878	102,516	157,714	169,394
Measles	399,461	396,841	384,361	366,116	615,332
Acute Pneumonia ..	34,348	31,096	34,624	30,714	43,181
Meningococcal Infections	3,147	1,971	1,586	1,745	1,956
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	9,251	2,175	6,850	8,699	3,093
Dysentery	4,179	5,587	4,819	18,135	29,488
Enteric (Typhoid and Para-typhoid) Fevers	880	873	1,138	654	1,438

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

SANITARY INSPECTION—SUMMARY OF VISITS

Inspection of Dwelling Houses	2,040
---------------------------------------	-------

These Inspections were for the following purposes :—

(a) Slum Clearance	12
(b) Inspection of Houses for defects (excluding Hobhouse Survey) ..	80
(c) Re-inspection of Houses as to Repairs	466
(d) Inspections of living Vans and Sheds	148
(e) Inspection of Service Buildings occupied by Squatters	36
(f) Overcrowding and Housing Applications	143
(g) Re-tenanting of Vacant Dwellings ..	10
(h) Hobhouse Survey—Dwellings inspected	1093
(i) Verminous and Dirty Dwellings ..	52

2,040

Inspection of Premises for and re Nuisances	204
Drainage Inspections	266
New Drains Laid and Examined	19
Visits re Food Supply—Meat	150
do. do. Ice-Cream	59
do. do. other Foods	14
do. do. Cafes	23
Infection of Milk Supply	80
Dairies	46
Infectious Diseases	29
Visits re Water Supply	163
Samples of Water taken for Chemical and Bacteriological Examination	64
Refuse Tips—Supervision	178
Refuse and Salvage Collection	253
Factories (including Bakehouses) and Outworkers ..	6
Knackers' Yards	15
Petroleum Stores	19
Rat Infestations	449
Fumigations	13
Keeping of Animals	14
Shops Acts	32
Accumulation of Refuse	37
Miscellaneous Visits	88

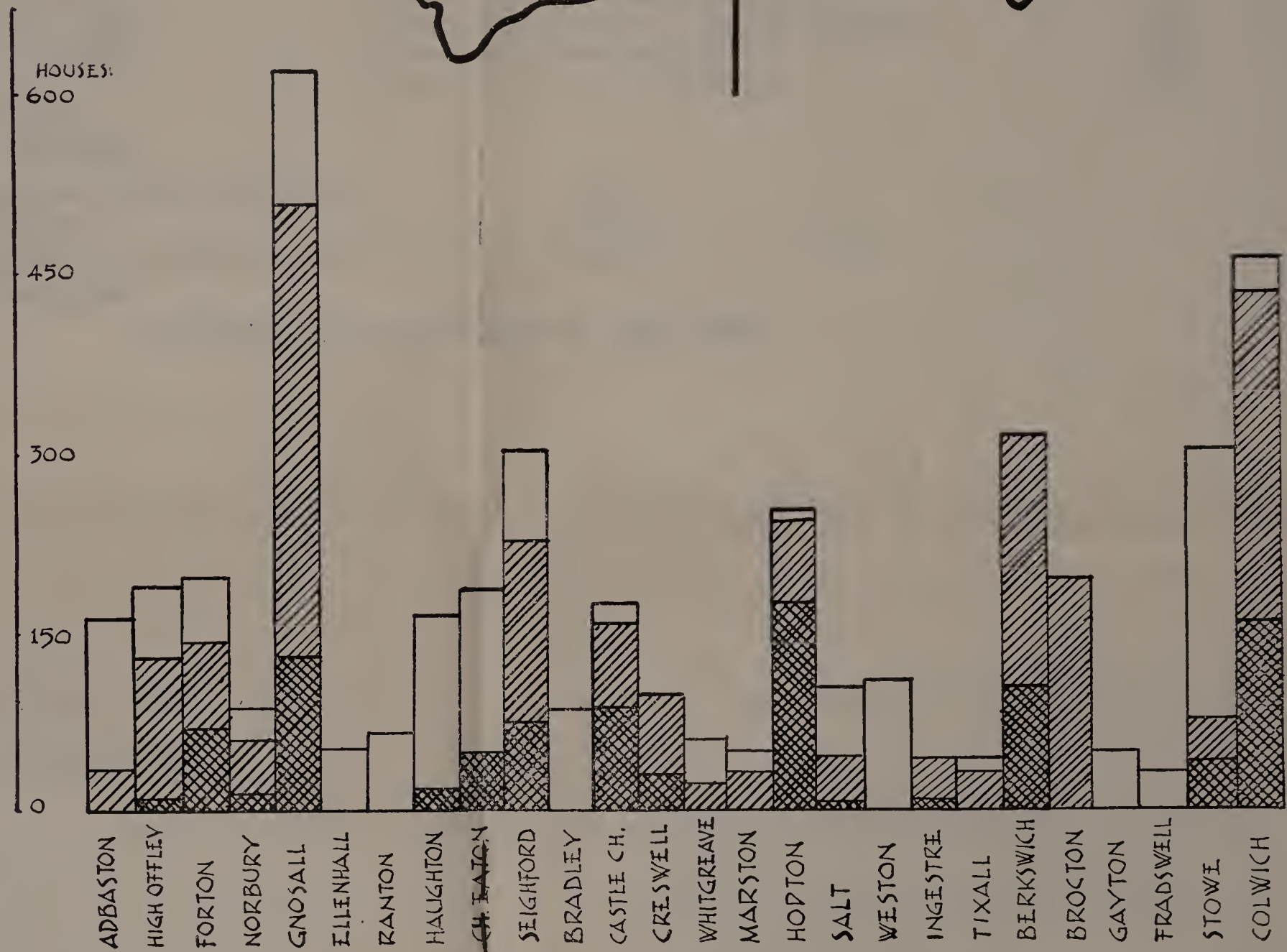
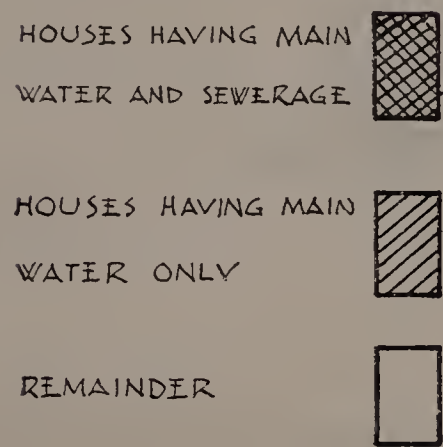
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STAFFORD R.D.C.

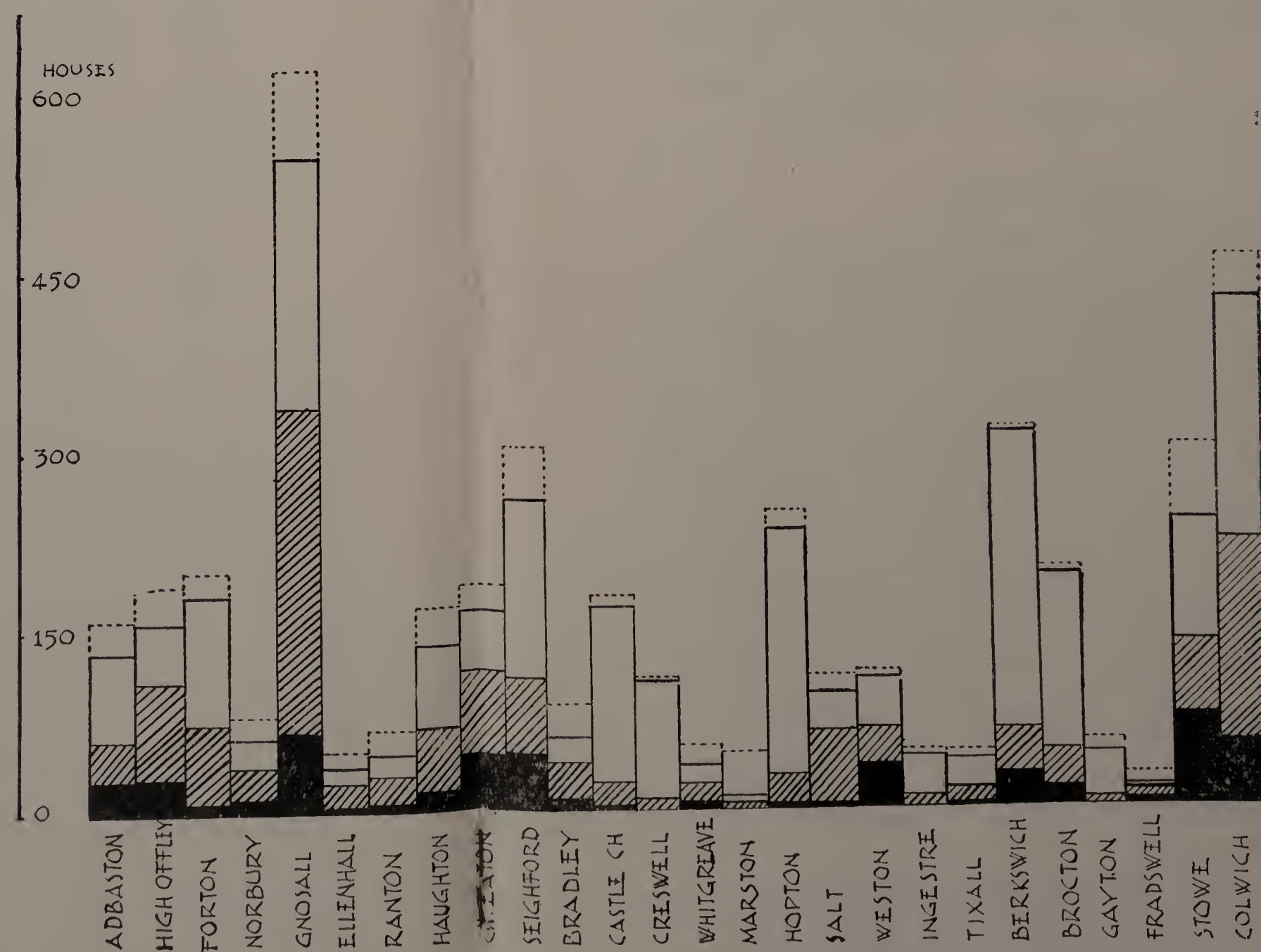
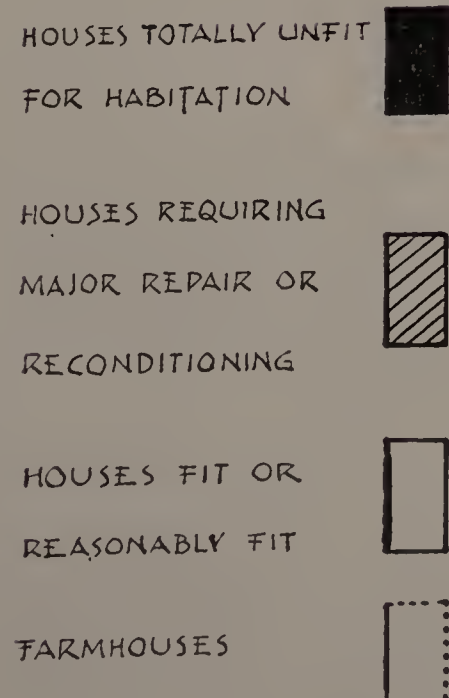
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SANITARY SERVICES



HOUSING



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

A. THE OVERALL PICTURE

TOTAL NUMBER OF DWELLINGS IN R

No. of Farmhouses

No. of Dwellings other than Farmhouses ..

STATE OF FITNESS
OF DWELLINGS :

(NOTE—No figures
are available under
this sub heading for
farmhouses)

Houss
Houss
Houss
Houss
Houss
11

SANITARY SERVICES :

Water
11
11
11
11

Sewer
No
(
(
(

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, ETC. : Houss

V
I
V
I

Houss
S
I

B. PARISH DETAILS AS TO HOUSING, SANITARY :

ICES OF THE AREA

AL DISTRICT .. 4,361
 661
 3,700

satisfactory in all respects	879
with minor defects	1,090
requiring repair of major character	882
unfit for reconditioning	373
unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost	476

3,700

Supply :

houses on Public Mains	2,435
houses on Private Mains	353
houses on Private Borehole	114
houses on Well Water, Spring or other Supply	1,459

4,361

and Drainage :

Houses

connected to Sewer	1,117
connected to Septic Tank or Ditch	3,078
Without Drainage	166

4,361

with—

Water Closet	1,911
Water Closet or Fixed Privy	2,318
Water Closet	28
Water Closet	104

4,361

without—

.. .. .	126
.. .. .	2,219

SERVICES ETC., See Inside Fold.



NOTICES SERVED DURING YEAR :	No. Served	No. complied with (served 1951 and previously)
Informal Notices and Letters as to general matters	75	82
Informal Notices to provide Dustbins ..	46	43
Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act, 1936	6	6

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR :

Total number received	88
As to Repairs to Dwellings ..	11
Others	77

WATER SUPPLY

Apart from a few dwellings at Islington in the Forton Parish and at the village of Norbury, which are serviced by Newport Urban District Council supply and Norbury Church Farm supply respectively, the public mains supplies are solely from this Council's boreholes at The Hollies, Gnosall, and from the Stafford Borough Council's wells and boreholes at Milford. Both these supplies have proved satisfactory in quality and quantity. The latter supply only is chlorinated.

Samples of The Hollies supply were taken during the year by this department, an example being as follows :—

Sample No. 427—The Hollies Supply

Nature of Sample : Bore, Hollies Common, Gnosall (taken from tap at Cottage, High Street, Gnosall).

Date and hour of collection : 14.8.51, noon.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION :

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C. NIL per 100 m.l.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS :

	Parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F. ..	40.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0012
Nitric Nitrogen	0.31
Chlorine present as Chloride	1.9
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	0.004
Appearance	Practically Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination ..	None

pH Value	..	..	7.4
Hardness before boiling	..	..	25.2°
Hardness after boiling	..	..	10.3°
Temporary Hardness	..	..	14.9°

A sample of the Stafford Borough Council's supply gave the following results :—

Sample No. 429—Stafford Borough Supply

Nature of Sample : Stafford Borough Supply (taken from tap at Fox Cottage, Great Haywood).

Date and hour of collection : 15.8.51, 11.10 a.m.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION :

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey two days, 37°C. Nil per 100 m.l.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS :

	Parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F. ..	41.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0004
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0008
Nitric Nitrogen	0.29
Chlorine present as Chloride	6.9
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	0.011
Appearance	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination ..	None
pH Value	7.5
Hardness before boiling	13.6°
Hardness after boiling	6.0°
Temporary Hardness	7.6°

The number of dwellings supplied from public mains at December, 1951, (a) direct to the houses and (b) by means of standpipes are shown in the table following :—

Parish	No. of houses in Parish	Approx. population in Parish	Water supplied direct to house		Water supplied by standpipe		Total Dwellings on public main
			No. of houses	Population	No. of houses	Population	
Adbaston ..	163	610	—	—	—	—	—
Berkswich ..	319	1,256	313	1,249	4	18	317
Bradley ..	82	319	—	—	—	—	—
Brocton ..	194	784	187	773	4	11	191
Castle Church ..	173	727	157	682	—	—	157
Church Eaton ..	180	1,019*	—	—	19	70	19
Colwich ..	460	1,763	391	1,592	30	120	421
Creswell ..	89	322	87	316	—	—	87
Ellenhall ..	51	172	—	—	—	—	—
Forton ..	194	713	25	93	—	—	25
Fradswell ..	35	155	—	—	—	—	—
Gayton ..	51	190	—	—	—	—	—
Gnosall ..	619	2,229	516	1,853	—	—	516
Haughton ..	163	537	—	—	—	—	—
High Offley ..	189	678	125	400	—	—	125
Hopton & Coton	251	3,803*	197	696	—	—	197
Ingestre ..	44	133	—	—	—	—	—
Marston ..	47	208	—	—	—	—	—
Norbury ..	86	291	57	219	—	—	57
Ranton ..	66	276	—	—	—	—	—
Salt and Enson	95	386	—	—	—	—	—
Seighford ..	302	1,102	229	778	—	—	229
Stowe ..	301	1,186*	56	209	—	—	56
Tixall ..	45	206	38	186	—	—	38
Weston ..	112	418	—	—	—	—	—
Whitgreave ..	50	217	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	4,361	19,700	2,378	9,046	57	219	2,435

*Include Polish Hostel occupants, H.M. Forces, etc.

Some 353 dwellings were served during the year from privately owned mains supplies in the parishes of Adbaston, Church Eaton, Forton, Hopton, Ingestre, Marston, Salt and Enson, Stowe and Whitgreave.

During the year under review progress with the Western Area Water Scheme was maintained and connections to mains supply of many additional dwellings in Gnosall, Moreton, Bromstead, Outwoods, High Offley, Norbury, Oulton, Weston Jones and Knightley were completed.

The supplies to those dwellings dependent on individual wells and springs, are frequently unsatisfactory in both quality and quantity and it was found necessary during the year to cart supplies to tanks placed at Sandon Bank, Hopton, The Hollies (Gnosall), Knightley, Sutton, Moreton and Shebdon. Most of these tanks have since been removed due to the extension of the Western Area Water Scheme to the areas they served.

Samples of drinking water taken during the year, together with results, are as follows :—

	Number of Samples taken for Bacteriological Exam. and Chemical Analysis	RESULTS		
		Fit	Unfit	Borderline
Wells (Private) ..	44	4	26	14
Springs (Private) ..	2	1	1	—
Boreholes (Private)	10	3	4	3
Main Supplies :				
(a) Public ..	8	8	—	—
(b) Private ..	—	—	—	—
	64	16	31	17

SEWERAGE

During the year the extension by the Council of the Newport U.D.C. sewer to serve 25 dwellings in the Forton parish at Islington, Nr. Newport, was completed. In the same period the former Hixon R.A.F. sewerage works and sewers in Stowe parish were taken over by the Council. Schemes were also prepared and adopted for the sewerage of Norbury and the unsewered section of Gnosall.

At the present time the greater number of houses in the area are drained to cesspools or septic tanks and soakaways in the gardens of the houses. The serious danger to health caused by the continually overflowing septic tanks in the Berkswich and Brocton Parishes and, to a lesser degree, in other parts of the area, and the flow of untreated sewage into ditches in the Colwich and Stowe parishes and elsewhere must again be emphasised. The many serious reports and strong appeals made by this department for satisfactory sewerage of these areas have met with no success. Admittedly the Rural District Council has had an ardent desire during recent years to proceed with this essential work but considerations and deliberations of various bodies seem to get us no nearer to a remedy of these dangerous and exceedingly objectionable conditions. The officers of this department are most disappointed by the delays in the matter.

The number of dwellings sewered and the number of W.C's, etc., in the area are shown on the folded sheet embodied in the report.

REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION

The collection of house refuse was carried out by direct labour from all the villages and built-up areas of the Council's district. Four modern type low-loading refuse collection vehicles—two of 7 cub. yd. capacity (2-man cabs), one of 12 cub. yd. capacity (2-man cab) and one of 10 cub. yd. capacity (6-man cab)—were employed. The purchase dates of the vehicles are 1942, 1947, 1948 and 1951, respectively. Ten men were engaged on this work and in levelling and soil-covering tips.

About 3,000 dwellings received the service, approximately half of these being serviced weekly and the remainder fortnightly. With few exceptions, collections were made on the same day of the week. The few dwellings which do not receive the service are in isolated positions as the service cannot embrace such dwellings except at excessive additional cost.

It is contended that the provision of a satisfactory and regular refuse collection service to a district so vast as this—the total mileage covered in the year being approximately 30,000—is no mean achievement. Approximately 2,000 tons of refuse were collected during the year.

With the help of a Commer tipper lorry, which is used for general work, the several refuse tips were kept in reasonably good order and rigorous steps were regularly taken to keep the refuse tips rat-free by poisoning methods during the year.

Salvage Collection. The demand for and value of salvaged paper increased greatly in 1951 and the following table gives details of collections :—

Month	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.		Income to Council		
					£	s.	d.
January	.. 5	5	1	..	51	15	3
February	.. 2	18	1	..	30	15	0
March	..	Nil		..		Nil	
April ..	.. 4	14	0	..	67	6	0
May	.. 2	9	2	..	33	15	0
June	.. 4	0	1	..	77	6	3
July ..	.. 3	9	0	..	67	5	0
August	.. 3	15	1	..	73	16	3
September	.. 2	18	1	..	56	18	9
October	.. 3	15	3	..	75	11	3
November	.. 2	6	2	..	36	0	9
December	.. 2	11	1	..	39	14	5
TOTAL ..	38	3	1	..	£610	3	11

HOUSING

New Houses erected or provided during 1951 :—

(a)	by Local Authority (Permanent Houses)	..	28
	These were at Gnosall, 14, Great Haywood 8, and Church Eaton 6.		
(b)	by Local Authority (by conversion of Military Buildings at Seighford)	.. ..	20
(c)	by 16 M.U.	.. ..	40
(d)	by Private Enterprise	.. ..	15
(e)	by C.C. for Police Force	.. ..	4
(f)	by H.M. Prison Commissioners	.. ..	30
			<hr/> 137 <hr/>

Existing Dwellings.—Much time was devoted by the Sanitary Inspectors to existing housing conditions. Many overcrowded cases and other families living in insanitary conditions were rehoused to better accommodation and many dwellings were repaired and improved by the efforts of the department.

Clearance Area. During the year a Clearance Order made by the Council under Section 26 of the Housing Act, 1936, requiring the demolition of ten cottages known as the Glueworks, Weston-upon-Trent, was confirmed by the Minister of Local Government and Planning and became operative on the 7th July, 1951.

Hobhouse Survey.—This house to house survey of dwellings conducted over a period of over two years was completed early in

1951 and extensive and detailed records of the dwellings in the district are now kept in the Department. Information as to the condition of the dwellings in the area is given on the folded sheet embodied in the report.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The following shows the number and type of factories in the area :—

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections during 1951
(i) Non-Mechanical	2	—
(ii) Mechanical Factories ..	34	6
TOTAL	36	6

No defects were found. Only five of the factories are of any size.

Two outworkers were employed in the district of the Council during the year, the premises being satisfactory.

Six factories in the area are granted Certificates that sufficient means of Fire Escape are provided and there were no contraven-tions in this respect.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Eighty-seven Licences were issued during the year for the bulk storage of 55,816 gallons of motor spirit. 63 of the licensed premises had hand-pumps fitted to storage tanks, 22 had electric pumps and two stored in metal barrels and containers.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council provides a free service of rat disinfection to residential property, while the treatment of many of the farms in the area is executed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries by contract. The cost of treating other properties by the Council is re-charged to the occupiers.

Infestations which were treated by the department during 1951 (from which there was a total estimated kill of 1,404 rats) were :—

Private Residential Property	20
R.D.C. Refuse Tips and Sewage Works ..	6

The public sewers were tested for rats during the year with negative results.

SHOPS ACTS

As a thorough inspection was made of all shops in the rural district at the end of 1950, visits during 1951 were comparatively few. There are no large shops in the district—in fact almost without exception the shops are of the dwelling house-cum-village shop type. There were approximately 34 male and 18 female assistants and 3 young persons employed, other than members of occupiers' families.

The following table gives an analysis of the total number of shops and the number of inspections made during the year :—

	No. of Shops	No. of Inspections
Butchers	8	1
Catering Establishments ..	11	5
Fruit and Vegetables	3	—
General Provisions	45	11
Sweets, Tobacco	10	—
Public Houses	48	9
Drapers	2	—
Garage and Cycles	14	4
Hairdressers	1	—
Post Offices (used solely as such)	14	2
Shoe Repairs	2	—
TOTALS	158	32

From the visits paid during the year no contraventions of note were found.

Closing Hours

(a) EARLY CLOSING DAY

The numbers of shops closed half days (by 1 p.m.) were as follows :—

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
5	22	28	4	—	22

(b) GENERAL CLOSING HOURS

The General Closing Hours applicable in this district were :—

Winter—7.30 p.m. on Saturdays and 6 p.m. on other days.

Summer—9 p.m. on Saturdays and 8 p.m. on other days.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Of applications received for licences under the Public Health Act, 1936, to station and use vans as dwellings twenty-seven were granted, these being subject to various conditions as to siting, sanitary facilities, etc., and all were granted for the period ending 31st December, 1951, only. Nine of these vans left the district before the end of the period. Five other applications were received but refused.

The licensed vans were fairly well scattered over the council's area, were satisfactorily kept and created no nuisance. No site licences have been granted.

FOOD INSPECTION

Particulars of Food Inspected during the Year:—

MEAT

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle, Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed and notified	37	127	7	10	5	235
Number inspected	37	127	7	10	5	235
All diseases except Tuberculosis :— Whole carcasses condemned	26	98	7	7	4	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	2	3	—	2	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	75.7 %	79.5 %	100 %	90 %	80 %	0.85 %
Tuberculosis only :— Whole carcasses condemned	6	19	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	2	—	—	—	3	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	21.6 %	14.9 %	—	—	60 %	—

The above animals were killed and examined at a Casualty Slaughterhouse in the area, which is the reason for the high percentage of meat condemned.

Weight of Meat (excluding horses) Condemned due to :—

(a) Tuberculosis	12,947 lbs.	
(b) Other Diseases or conditions ..	66,808 lbs.	
		79,755 lbs.
Weight of Horseflesh Condemned ..		1,150 lbs.
Weight of other Food Condemned ..		62 lbs.
		<hr/>
Total weight of Food Condemned		80,967 lbs.

Five slaughterhouses were licensed by this Council for the use of private pig-keepers. These licenses were additional to the licence granted year by year to the Casualty Slaughterhouse in the district. This Slaughterhouse continued to be kept in a manner satisfactory to this Department. Licences were also granted for the use during the year of two Knacker's Yards in the area. Thirty men were licensed to stun and slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Food Preparing Premises and Food Shops.

There were only three premises in the area manufacturing prepared meats and two premises in which ice-cream was manufactured. These continued to be satisfactory. They—together with 25 shops from which ice-cream is sold—are registered by the Council in conformity with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Byelaws as to handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air are in operation in the area of the Council. Routine inspections of shops, vehicles and places where food is prepared have so far brought to light no contraventions of the Byelaws.

Samples of ice-cream were taken at regular intervals during the "season" with results as follows :—

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS. Ten samples gave fat content figures which complied with the requirements of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1951.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

	Grade			
	1	2	3	4
Six Samples taken from the two manufacturers in Rural District (3 samples from each)	5	1	—	—
Twenty-seven Samples taken from the nine manufacturers whose premises are without the Rural District but supply to Rural District	12	6	8	1

The Public Health Laboratory Service suggest that over a six-monthly period, 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into

Grade 1, 80% into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20% into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4. All makes of ice-cream but one complied with the foregoing standard. Of 6 samples taken from the offending case one fell into Grade 4 and five into Grade 3. It was evident that the fault lay at the suppliers' end and the matter was taken up with the district council from whose area the ice-cream was supplied. The sale of the product in this district was subsequently abandoned.

Food Poisoning.—There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The table following gives particulars of the registrations and licences granted by the Council :—

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 :—

No. of Distributors of Milk with Dairies in Stafford R.D.C. area	10
No. of Distributors having Dairies outside R.D.C. area	18

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1949 :—

No. Licensed to sell (a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	27
(b) Pasteurised Milk ..	22
(c) Sterilised Milk ..	3

Quite a number of farmers retail their own Tuberculin Tested milk through their Producers' Licence granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and these are additional to the figures above.

Consumption of Pasteurised Milk.—It is estimated that two-thirds of the Stafford Rural District population consume pasteurised milk. For comparison purposes the following table has been prepared :—

Percentage of Heat Treated and Raw Milk Consumed

	Pasteurised & Sterilised	Raw
Stafford R.D.C.	67%	33%
Admin. County of London	Near 100%	Almost Nil
England and Wales (Year ended 30.9.51)	81%	19%
Scotland (Year ended 30.9.51) ..	67%	33%

Milk Sampling.—Routine “ Street ” samples taken in the rural district during the year by County Council sampling officers resulted as follows :—

	Bacteriological Examinations			Biological Examinations			
	No. Samples Taken	No. Passing	No. Failing	No. Samples Taken	No. Negative	No. Positive Tuber- culosis	No. Positive Brucella Abortus
Distributors (Mostly Heat-treated Milk) ..	67	61	6	15	15	—	—
Farmer-Retailers (all Raw Milk) ..	171	133	38*	111	95	6	10

*These failures were undesignated milk supplies, samples from which were submitted to the Methylene Blue test for designated milk.

During the year 7 notices were served under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, requiring heat treatment of milk produced in the rural district and suspected as being infected with tuberculosis. Six of these notices were with respect to samples taken in the rural district—in the remaining instance the sample was taken in Birmingham. All these notices were withdrawn on your Medical Officer of Health being satisfied that the milk supply in each case was no longer likely to cause disease through infection.

The 10 cases of infection of the milk supply by *Brucella abortus* were investigated and informal arrangements made with the producer in each case for the suspect milk to be sent away for pasteurisation.

A. THOMSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

G. M. LAWTON,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

ACCIDENT STATISTICS FOR 1951

“I am indebted to Mr. C. R. L. Smith, Road Safety Organiser, Stafford Rural District, for the following report.

The following table shows the number of accidents occurring in the District during the year ended 31st December, 1951.

Fatal	With injury	Damage only	Total
4	88	105	197

The number of persons involved in accidents above where injury was sustained is as follows :—

Fatal	Seriously injured	Slightly injured	Total
4	31	85	120

The classification of persons injured in the above accidents are :—

	Fatal	Seriously injured	Slightly injured	Total
Pedestrians under 15 years..	2	2	3	7
Pedestrians over 15 years ..	—	1	4	5
Drivers of motor vehicles ..	—	3	24	27
Motor cyclists	—	15	8	23
Pillion Passengers	1	3	5	9
Pedal Cyclists under 15 years	—	2	—	2
Pedal Cyclists over 15 years	—	2	17	19
Other persons (passengers, etc.)	1	3	24	28
TOTALS ..	4	31	85	120

As can be seen from the classification table above a total of 9 children were involved in accidents where death or injury was sustained representing 7.5% of the total—even lower than last years 8.62% of the total. I know from personal knowledge that the majority of these children were under the age of 5 years which reduces the number of accidents occurring to schoolchildren to very small proportions and one can only conclude that the very small number of schoolchildren involved in accidents must be attributable to the excellent road safety teaching carried out in the schools.

It is very pleasing to note that the total number of accidents has fallen from 210 in 1950 to 197 this year. This reduction the Road Safety Committee sincerely hopes will continue in spite of very many hazards existing upon the highways of Great Britain today. The 4 fatal accidents occurred at :—

- (a) Stone Road, Whitgreave
- (b) Junction of St. Thomas Lane and Tixall Road, Stafford.
- (c) Stafford Road, Gnosall
- (d) Aqualate Park, Nr. Newport

For the benefit of persons who are not familiar with the Stafford Rural District, I would like to explain that of the above fatal accidents (a) occurred on a very busy main road ; (b) on a road which carries very little traffic and (c) and (d) on a fairly busy main road which proves that one has to be careful on the highway at all times regardless of the weight of traffic that the road carries.

I am frequently asked, “ What exactly does the Road Safety Committee do to try to reduce accidents,” the answer to this being almost all known ways of putting over effective Road Safety propaganda and education, i.e. attendance with exhibitions at local show and fetes, special film shows, cycling proficiency tests, distribution of pamphlets, leaflets, posters. The Committee have gone so far as to present its own show using a dog demonstration team. We ask children to partake in road safety quizzes and painting competitions—the latter competition is growing in popularity each year. It brings to the notice of the appropriate authorities dangerous road bends, need for road repair or improvement, need for erection of signs, etc., and I am pleased to state that in all cases except one the representations have been successful.

Whilst there is a small decline in the number of accidents in the Stafford Rural District there is an alarming increase in the number of road casualties in Great Britain as the following table shows :—

Year	Killed	Seriously injured	Slightly injured
1938	6,648	50,782	175,929
1949	4,773	43,410	128,596
1950	5,012	48,652	147,661
1951	5,250	52,369	158,874

The 1951 figures disclose an increase in persons killed or injured of 15,186 over the 1950 figures which is roughly equal to the civil population of this area. The majority of these accidents could, and I am convinced on this point, have been avoided if persons using the highway had only shown more courtesy in their road behaviour. Adopt as your motto “ Courtesy on the roads pays YOU ” and incidentally saves lives.

I am grateful to the Public Health Department for affording me the opportunity of submitting this report.”

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